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Technology Center 2600

Patent

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant(s): Andrew Thomas, et al.	)	Re: Information Disclosure
	)	Statement
Serial No.: 10/005,379	)	Group: 2641
	)	
Filed: December 4, 2001	)	Examiner: not yet assigned
	)	
	)	Our Ref: B-4412 619362-3
	)	
For: "SOUND LINKS"	)	Date: April 17, 2002

Hon. Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks  
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

In accordance with the Applicants' duty to disclose information which may be material to the examination of this application, the undersigned respectfully requests that the Examiner consider on the merits the documents listed on the enclosed Form PTO-1449 (modified) before issuing the first Office Action on the merits. We are enclosing herewith a copy of each document listed on the enclosed Form PTO-1449 (modified).

The documents listed on the enclosed Form PTO-1449 (modified) include those cited in the European Search Report for European Application No. EP 01310004. A copy of the Search Report is enclosed herewith. Please note that U.S. Patent No. 6,163,803 to Watanabe, cited in the European Search Report, was previously cited in an IDS filed on March 18, 2002 for the subject application. Therefore, a copy of the document is not included with this IDS.

The filing of this Information Disclosure Statement (IDS) shall not be construed as a representation that a search has been made (37 C.F.R. 1.97(g)), an admission that the information cited is, or is considered to be, material to patentability, or that no other material information exists.

The Applicants believe that this IDS is being submitted before the issuance of a first Office Action on the merits and before the issuance of a Final Rejection or Notice of Allowance. Therefore, no official fees should be due; and this IDS should be considered

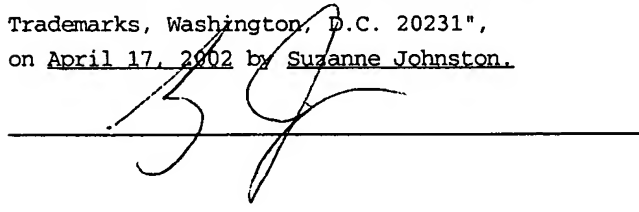
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USSN 10/005,379  
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on the merits. If this IDS is being submitted after the issuance of the first Office Action on the merits and before the issuance of a Final Rejection or Notice of Allowance, then the Commissioner is authorized to charge Deposit Account No. 12-0415 \$180.00 (or any other required amount), which is the fee set forth in 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(c); and this IDS should be fully considered on the merits, in accordance with 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(d). If this IDS is being submitted after the issuance of a Final Rejection or Notice of Allowance, then the Commissioner is not authorized to charge \$180.00 to Deposit Account No. 12-0415.

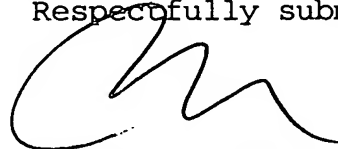
The filing of this Information Disclosure Statement shall not be construed as an admission against interest in any manner. (Notice of January 9, 1992, 1135 O.G. 13-25, at 25.)

The person making this statement is the practitioner who signs below on the basis of information supplied by an individual associated with the filing and prosecution of this application (37 C.F.R. § 1.56(c)) and on the basis of information in the practitioner's file.

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service with sufficient postage as first-class mail in an envelope addressed to the "Hon. Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks, Washington, D.C. 20231", on April 17, 2002 by Suzanne Johnston.



Respectfully submitted,



Richard P. Berg  
Attorney for Applicant  
Reg. No. 28,145

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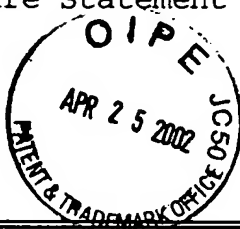
Enclosures: Form PTO-1449 (modified) (1 page)  
Copy of Search Report for EP 01310004 (1 page)  
Copy of documents listed on Form PTO-1449 (modified)

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Form PTO-1449 (Modified)	ATTY DOCKET NO. B-4412 619362-3	U.S. SERIAL NO. 10/005,379
LIST OF PATENTS AND PUBLICATIONS STATEMENT	APPLICANTS Andrew Thomas, et al.	
	FILING DATE December 4, 2001	GROUP 2641

**U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS**

EXAMINER INITIAL	DOCUMENT NUMBER	ISSUE DATE	NAME	CLASS	SUB- CLASS	FILING DATE or 102(e) DATE IF APPROPRIATE
	5,761,280	6/98	Noonen et al.	379	93.27	
	5,953,392	9/99	Rhie et al.	379	88.13	
	6,243,443 B1	6/01	Low et al.	379	88.17	

**FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS**

DOCUMENT NUMBER	PUBLICATION DATE	COUNTRY	CLASS	SUBCLASS	TRANSLATION YES/NO
01/86451 A1 ✓	11/01	WO			

**OTHER DOCUMENTS (Including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, Etc.)**

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EXAMINER	DATE CONSIDERED

EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609; Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.